

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL POSS DUPE

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64

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-15 AID-20 OMB-01 PC-04 DRC-01 /152 W

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R 262145Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9594

INFO USCINCSO

AMCONSUL CALI UNN

AMCONSUL MEDELLIN UNN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 7978

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINR CO

SUBJECT: COUNTER-GUERRILLA OFFENSIVE CONTINUES

REF: BOGOTA 7889 DAO BOGOTA IR NO 6-819-0126-73

1. A POLITICAL FIGURE CLOSE TO PRESIDENT PASTRANA
CONFIRMED TO THE POLITICAL COUNSELOR ON SEPTEMBER 26
THAT THE COUNTER-GUERRILLA OFFENSIVE NOW UNDERWAY IN
ANTIOQUIA AND THE MIDDLE MAGDALEN AHAS BEEN UNDERTAKEN
AT THE DIRECTION OF THE PRESIDENT. PASTRANA TOLD THE
SOURCE THAT HE HAS TWO GOALS IN MIND: FIRST, TO
REDUCT TO THE ABSOLUTE MINIMUM THE POSIBILITY OF SUBVERSIVE
ACTIONS (KIDNAPPINGS, ARMED VIOLENCE) BETWEEN NOW AND THE
PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS IN APRIL, 1974; SECOND, TO COMPLETE
THE PACIFICATION OF THE COUNTRY AS ONE OF THE MOST
IMPORTANT LEGACIES OF HIS ADMINISTRATION.

2. THE OFFENSIVE CONTINUES UNDER THE COMMAND OF
CO RIVEROS, COMMANDER OF THE FOURTH BRIGADE
BUT ONLY FRAGMENTARY INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE. THE
PRESS HAS ENGAGED IN SOME SENSATIONAL REPORTING, WITH
HEADLINES CLAIMING HUNDRED OF GUERRILLAS KILLED
OR CAPTURED. THE REAL FIGURES ARE MUCH LOWER, AS
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PAGE 02 BOGOTA 07978 262235Z

REPORTED IN IR Y-819-0126-73. THE GENERALLY ACCURATE
EL COLOMBIANO OF MEDELLIN REPORTED ON SEPTEMBER 25

THAT THE FOURTH BRIGADE HAD KILLED 20 GUERRILLAS IN
SEPTEMBER FOR A TOTAL OF 90 SINCE THE BEGINNING OF 1973.
3. IN A NEW DEVELOPMENT, THE GOVERNMENT OF ANTIOQUIA ON
SEPTEMBER 25 ANNOUNCED ADDITIONAL ONE MILLION PESO
REWARDS (ONE PESO EQUALS APPROX FOUR U.S. CENTS)
FOR INFORMATION LEADING TO THE CAPTURE OF ANTONIO AND
MANUEL VAZQUEZ CASTANHO, BROTHERS OF FABIO, THE ELN
LEADER FOR WHOM A ONE MILLION PESO REWARD WAS OFFERED LAST
WEEK. EL COLOMBIANO OF SEPT 26 REPORTS THAT BODY
THOUGHT TO BE ANTONIO VAZQUEZ IS IN FACT ANOTHER
GUERRILLA.
WHITE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

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30 JUN 2005

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